

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for comparing a similarity between phonetic transcriptions of a specific foreign word, comprising the steps of:

a) separating each syllable of each of said phonetic transcriptions into consonants and vowels, sequentially arranging the resultant letter elements and removing all initial consonants 'O' except that of an initial letter from the arranged letter elements;

b) removing an earlier one of successively repeated same consonants from the arranged letter elements;

c) transforming an initial consonant of said initial letter into a predetermined representative consonant;

d) substituting the remaining consonants with predetermined consonant codes;

e) removing a desired one of successively repeated same codes from the substituted consonant codes, said successively repeated same codes being sequentially final and initial consonant codes, said removed code being said final consonant code; and

f) comparing the remaining consonant codes with predetermined codes based on the standard rules of foreign word transcription and determining that each of said phonetic transcriptions is the same as a standard phonetic transcription of said specific foreign

word if the remaining consonant codes are equal to said predetermined codes.

2. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said predetermined representative consonant transformed at said step c) is "ㄱ", "ㄴ", "ㄷ", "ㄹ", "ㅈ" or "ㅊ".

3. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said step d) includes the step of assigning a constant consonant code "1" to the remaining constant consonants "ㄱ", "ㄱ*", "ㄴ" and "ㄴ*", a constant consonant code "2" to the remaining constant consonants "ㄷ", "ㄷ*", "ㄹ" and "ㄹ*", a constant consonant code "3" to the remaining constant consonants "ㄷ", "ㄷ*", "ㄹ", "ㄹ*", "ㅇ" and "ㅇ*", a constant consonant code "4" to the remaining constant consonants "ㄷ", "ㄷ*", "ㄹ", "ㄹ*", "ㅇ" and "ㅇ*", a constant consonant code "5" to the remaining constant consonants "ㄷ", "ㄷ*", "ㄹ", "ㄹ*", "ㅇ" and "ㅇ*", a constant consonant code "6" to the remaining constant consonants "ㄷ", "ㄷ*", "ㄹ", "ㄹ*", "ㅇ" and "ㅇ*", and a constant consonant code "7" to the remaining constant consonants "ㄷ", "ㄷ*", "ㄹ", "ㄹ*", "ㅇ" and "ㅇ*", respectively.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in Claim 3, wherein said further comprising a mark '*' indicates indicating that an associated consonant is a final consonant.